

THE UNITED STATES COMMITTEE  
for the care of  
EUROPEAN CHILDREN  
215 FOURTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF  
BENNINGTON COLLEGE

8/24/40  
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August 22, 1940

President Robert D. Leigh  
Bennington College  
Bennington  
Vermont

My dear Dr. Leigh:

I have your letter of August 20th.

Frankly, it is impossible for any of us here to tell just what must be planned for during the next two or three weeks in connection with our prospective English guests. At the moment I cannot believe that there will be any urgent demand between now and the opening dates of our schools and colleges next month for emergency reception centers such as you have so generously offered to provide at Bennington. Although the Mercy Ship Bill has passed Congress, change in conditions across the water and the announced attitude of Hitler would seem to leave it open to doubt at least whether American boats will be sent across to bring the children to this country. Even if they should go, the return cargoes could hardly be expected before the middle of next month. My own feeling is that it would hardly be necessary for you to incur further expense or trouble providing for a situation that seems at the moment unlikely to develop.

Very sincerely yours,



Alfred E. Stearns  
Director  
Education Section

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